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378-D  
293/042

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADE OFFICE

Applicants : Todd A. Berg et al.  
Application No. : 09/550,471 Confirmation No.: 8796  
Filed : April 14, 2000  
For : ARTIFICIAL HEART VALVE ATTACHMENT  
APPARATUS AND METHODS  
Group Art Unit : 3738  
Examiner : Bruce Snow

New York, New York, 10020  
March 4, 2002

Hon. Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 2327  
Arlington, Virginia 22202

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed on December 3, 2001, applicants hereby amend the above-identified office action as follows:

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 10, 30 and 54 without prejudice.

Please amend claims 1, 20, and 45 as follows:

1. (Amended) A valve apparatus for deploying in, and securing to, a tissue annulus, said valve comprising: